

Canada Says No to Missile Defence

Posted by

Friday, 25 February 2005 01:08 - Last Updated Friday, 25 February 2005 01:08

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ceasefire: Wow -- what a surprise. We knew we were getting close to a "no to missile defence" decision from Paul Martin and we expected it to happen soon after the Liberal convention in two weeks. But this is a great early gift, it's in the news everywhere -- Prime Minister Paul Martin announced yesterday that Canada will not be joining George W. Bush's missile defence scheme.

From: NewsLetter@ceasefire.ca

Subject: [ceasefire] We Win on Missile Defence

Congratulations

& Thank YOU!

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Friday, February 25th, 2005

Dear Your home town,

Wow -- what a surprise. We knew we were getting close to a "no to missile defence" decision from Paul Martin and we expected it to happen soon after the Liberal convention in two weeks.

Steven Staples, founder of ceasefire.ca. Watch his interview on CTV discussing missile defence. [Click here.](#)

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And it's you who deserve the credit for getting the Prime Minister to make the right decision.

It took us over 2-years of hard work, over 50,000 thousands letters to Canadian politicians from people just like you, thousands of letters to media outlets, dozens of editorials, a well-researched and highly informative book by Mel Hurtig, position papers from the Polaris Institute and others, and financial support from thousands of Canadians!

Thank YOU! And please give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done or raise a glass to cheer our good victory.

But not everyone is happy. Already the editorialists, the retired generals, the ambassadors, and the CEOs are crying foul. They accuse the government of failing to convince Canadians that Canada needs to join the U.S. missile system.

They won't be giving up. They're already ridiculing this decision and trying to reverse it.

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Our goal now is to confirm for Canadians that this is the right decision. The best decision for our security. And the first step to stop the weaponization of space.

That's why we were asking you to go to ceasefire.ca right now to write a letter and send it to your local or national media outlet supporting the government's decision to not join George W. Bush's star wars program.

<link>

Let's remember that the pro-missile defence lobby has a much larger agenda. They'll be disappointed by this decision and they'll continue to fight back. But they'll soon move on to their larger agenda, which is integrating Canada's military with the Pentagon.

That's why we at ceasefire.ca will soon be announcing an expansion of our campaign work -- to defend Canada.

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And it's why ceasefire.ca will continue our current work and launch future campaigns -- because we know a well-informed public can make good decisions and change the world.

But today, let's talk about our success.

Just over one year ago some commentators said that Canada's participation in the U.S. missile defence scheme was "a done deal." Well now, because thousands of Canadians like you made your concerns heard through ceasefire.ca's campaigns, missile defence has become a major headache for the government. So much so that yesterday Paul Martin announced that Canada will not join!

Martin has said no to missile defence because it's bad for Canada. He said no because you and I are well informed. We know what we are talking about, we know how bad the technology is, we know that it's a threat to our security, and we know missile defence is a small piece of a larger program to militarize space. And Paul Martin could not ignore a well-informed public opinion.

So congratulations on getting informed, helping to inform others, sending over 50,000 letters to MPs and media, and ultimately working together to help put an end to Bush's missile defence scheme.

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Thank you for defending Canada,

Steven Staples

Polaris Institute

and founder of ceasefire.ca

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Donations and inquiries may be directed to:

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